Revival of sick sugar companies from sugar development fund

1906. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to do away with the policy of taking charge of fixed assets of sugar mills for extending small loans upto Rs. 1 or 2 crores from Sugar Development Fund for revival and rehabilitation of sick and small sugar companies;

(b) if not, how Government plan to help such deserving sugar factories from the Sugar Development Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government has, at present, no plan to do away with the system of creation of charge on the fixed assets of the sugar mills for extending loan from SDF for revival rehabilitation of sick sugar mills. In case, the rehabilitation scheme of a sick sugar mill is considered and sanctioned by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), as per the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies Act, 1985 and the BIFR considers it appropriate that financial assistance in the shape of a loan from the Sugar Development Fund is to be provided to a sick sugar mill and so passes an order as part of its rehabilitation schemes, the same is considered for approval in accordance with SDF Rules, in the Standing Committee for the Sugar Development Fund.

संडीला के एफ०सी०आई० कर्मकारों के निमित्त वेतन चैक का बाउंस हो जाना

1907. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामलों के मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारतीय खाद्य निगम (एफ०आर०डी०सी० गोदाम), संडीला के कर्मकारों को फरवरी, 1998 तक के वेतन के भुगतान के लिए जारी किया चैक बांउस हो गया;

(ख) यदि हां, तो चैक के बाउंस होने के क्या कारण थे और इसके लिए कौन-कौन अधिकारी जिम्मेदार थे तथा उनके विरूद्ध क्या कार्रवाई की गई है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि उनके वेतन के भुगतान के संबंध में उच्च न्यायालय द्वारा 14 अक्तूबर 1998 को दिये गये आदेश को भी प्रशासन द्वारा नजर अंदाज कर दिया गया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उक्त कर्मचारियों के बकाया वेतन का भुगतान कब तक कर दिया जाएगा और इसमें विलंब के क्या कारण है?

खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामलों के मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सत्य पाल सिंह यादव): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा-पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Relaxation in Quality of Rice

1908. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government had requested for relaxation of quality of rice;

(b) if so, what was the reaction of the Central Government thereto;

(c) whether Government have relaxed the quality of rice procured from Punjab this year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has allowed relaxation in the specification of Paddy & Rice due to un-seasonal rains during September-October, 1998.

(c) and (d) Following relaxation in rice specification has been extended to the State of Punjab during Kharif Marketing Season 1998-99

Rice stocks can be procured with:

(i) Damaged Slightly damaged grains upto a maximum limit of 4.5% in respect of raw and parboiled rice both of Grade 'A' and common varieties.

(ii) Discoloured grains upto a maximum limit of 8% in respect of raw & parboiled rice both of grade 'A' and Common varieties.

(iii) Broken grains upto a maximum limit of 27% in raw rice both of Grade 'A' and common varieties.

Procurement of rice

1909. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had completed procurement of rice in the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the expected quantity for procurement; and

(d) whether Government would complete the quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Procurement of paddy/rice is in progress and will continue till 30.9.1999. A quantity of 90.02 lakh tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) has been procured for Central upto 8.3.1999 in the current Kharif Marketing Season 1998-99.

(c) and (d) The procurement of paddy under price support scheme is purely voluntary in nature, as only the paddy offered by the farmers can be procured. Similarly the collection of rice under levy scheme also depends on the purchase of paddy made by the millers. Hence, no targets are fixed for procurement of rice.

However, the procurement of rice is likely to be between 110 to 120 lakh tonnes in the Kharif Marketing Season 1998-99.

Making Diploma in Homoeopathy Essential for Homoeopathic Pharmacist

1910. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to consider Diploma in Homoeopathy an essential qualification for Homoeopathic Pharmacists working at present on experience basis in various dispensaries/hospitals/ units in the country causing great obstacles in the system-based Homoeopathic Science; and

(b) what are the details of steps being taken by Government for establishment of recognised institutes, prescribing Homoeopathic Pharmacy syllabus and for registration in established Homoeopathic Pharmacy Councils in the country; if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) There is no such proposal, at present Sir.

(b) At, present, there is no regulatory Council to impart uniform education for Homoeopathic Pharmacists. However, the Govt. had set up and expert committee for preparation of project report on Pharmacy Education in Homoeopathy. The Committee has submitted its report. The same is under consideration of the Government.